स्टील प्लांट का वह प्रोफिट में बदल जायेगा। लेकिन इसके बावजूद इस बात की आवश्यकता है कि उत्पादकता बढ़ाई जाय, ऊर्जा की खपत घटाई जाए और हर तरह से इनका आधुनिकीकरण किया जाए। नहीं तो इस्पात के कारखाने अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर कभी नहीं आ सकते। जैसे दुर्गापुर स्टील प्लांट की चर्चा है, राउरकेला स्टील प्लांट की या बर्नपुर की, सब का आधुनिकीकरण हो और भिलाई और बोकारों का एक्सपेंशन इसी लिए किया जा रहा है कि हम इस्पात के दाम ठीक स्तर पर रखें।

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Losses in steel industry in the public sector is an extremely complicated business. Prices today in India are almost double the prices prevelant in the international market for steel and if Rs. 4500 had not been realised in the interragnum by way of increase in price, perhaps, the entire capital invested in the public sector in steel industry would have been wiped out. May I, therefore, know from the Minister, going to the basic root of all these problems in view of these heavy losses, whether or not it is a fact that the technology of production of steel which is based on blast furnace route today is the real cause of the losses? Are they thinking of shifting to direct reduction process so that in future we are able to take care of ourselves without every time increasing the price?

12 Noon

SHRI K. C. PANT: Sir, the direct reduction route must also be adopted by the country, in addition to the blast furnace route. There is very little time and I do not want to encroach on the time of the House after Question Hour. Otherwise, I would have very much liked to give a longer answer to this question. But in Visakhapatnam, we would like to achieve much better productivity norms and technological norms than we have done in the other plants.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Setting up of separate news service under the Directorate-General of Doordarshan

*125. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set-up a separate news service under the Directorate-General of Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when it is likely to start functioning and the expenditure to be incurred for the same as also the **strength of the staff; and**

(d) whether a smilar news service is proposed to be set up in the States also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) to (c) A proposal regarding establishment of a separate news service set-up is at present in **initial stages of consideration and the various details are yet to be worked out.**

(d) No, Sir.

Mini steel plants in the private sector

*126. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to assign some mini-steel units to the private sector;

(b) if so, what are the details of the same and the companies to which those units would be assigned; and

(c) the quantity of steel expected to be produced by the above units?